Article 34 Amendments

Claims

Original claims 4-9 and 11 remain pending in the International Application and are unchanged.

Original claim 2 in the International Application is canceled.

Original claims 1, 3, 10 and 12 changed as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of treating an aluminum-wheel surface, the method comprising a blasting process for blowing a casting material onto the aluminum-wheel surface, the casting material being composed of plastic particles ranging in size from 100 to 2000 μm and containing a thermosetting resin as the main ingredient, and a chemical conversion process not using hexavalent chromium after the blasting process.

3. (Amended) The method in accordance with claim 1, the method being applied to an aluminum wheel having a mold release agent adhered to the surface of the aluminum wheel and further comprising a washing process between the blasting process and the chemical conversion process.

10. (Amended) The method in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein the plastic particles are a

pulverized thermoset resin having a particle size of 100 to 1000 μm, each particle is substantially an amorphous polyhedron having a sharp edge line, and the particle size of each particle size classification of the pulverized particles is roughly homogeneous.

12. (Amended) An apparatus for treating an aluminum-wheel surface by blasting the aluminum-wheel surface with a casting material, the apparatus comprising:

a blast booth having an opening for collecting a used casting material at the lower side of the inside;

a rotating shaft for fixing and rotating the aluminum wheel inside of the blast booth;

a nozzle positioned apart from the rotating shaft so as to face the rotating shaft in the axis direction thereof;

a rotating mechanism for controlling the rotation of the rotating shaft; and

a transferring mechanism for transferring the nozzle in a linear reciprocating motion in the radial direction of the aluminum wheel;

at least one of the rotating mechanism and the transferring mechanism being speed-controllable.